



**DIVISION OF MINES  
BOARD OF COAL MINING EXAMINERS  
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

**HOISTING ENGINEER**

Article 3 of the Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia establishes requirements for certification of coal mine workers. The certification requirements are included in §45.1-161.24 through §45.1-161.41 in which the Board of Coal Mining Examiners is established for the purpose of administering the certification program. The Board has promulgated certification regulations 4 VAC 25-20, which set the minimum standards and procedures required for Virginia coal miner examinations and certifications.

**CERTIFICATION CLASSIFICATION: *Hoisting Engineer* \***

This certification authorizes the holder to perform:

- Hoisting operations at shaft, slope and surface inclines
- Pre-operation and other required safety checks of hoisting equipment
- Record results of hoisting equipment examinations
- Duties of an automatic elevator operator after completing the on-site demonstration required by Section 2.20 of the BCME regulations

**APPLICATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:**

- Application (BCME-1) and \$10.00 fee 5 working days prior to examination
- Two years of practical mining experience and one year of hoisting experience under the direction of a certified hoisting engineer or appropriately related work experience approved by the Chief of the Division of Mines. A certified hoisting engineer shall verify the hoisting experience
- Hold a General Miner Certification, if required by law. Miners who have Virginia coal mining experience prior to January 1, 1996, and wish to obtain general miner certification must meet BCME requirement 4 VAC 25-20-255 B.1.2.3. or attend required general miner training.
- Current first aid training (MSHA first aid 5000-23 acceptable)

**EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS:** A score of 80% on each element of the examination.

<b>ELEMENTS OF EXAM</b>	<b>NUMBER OF QUESTIONS</b>
▪ Hoisting (HT)	50
▪ First Aid (MM)	20
▪ Observation - practical demonstration	
▪ Gas Detection - practical demonstration	
▪ Records – practical (not implemented)	

**RECOMMENDED REFERENCE/STUDY MATERIALS:**

- |                                     |                                   |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ■ Title 30 CFR Part 77              | ■ Hoisting Engineer Study Guide   |
| ■ Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia | ■ MSHA (Basic First Aid) Manual 3 |
| ■ BCME Requirements                 | ■ Mine Gases Packet               |

The above mentioned study materials are available at the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's Big Stone Gap Office, Customer Assistance Center (276) 523-8233 and Keen Mountain Field Office (276) 498-4533.

\*Continuing education required. See BCME requirements. (Effective August 25, 2004)